



540AE [2681.3128.001]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Rainer Schmidt et al**
Serial No. 10/043,996
Filed: January 11, 2002
For: Fuel Tank
Group Art Unit: 3727
Examiner: Joseph Man Moy
In reply to: Examiner's Letter of September 24, 2003

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Shirley A. Langley
Shirley A. Langley

Mail Stop – FEE Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION

This is in response to the first office Action of September 24, 2003 which allowed claims 1-7, indicated claims 1-14 would be allowable if placed in independent form, rejected claims 8 and 9 under §103, and withdrew from consideration claims 15-20.

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